

CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Greenways Advisory Committee
DATE OF MEETING: January 16, 2002
NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Robin Madel, 303-441-4073
NAMES OF MEMBERS, COUNCIL, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT: COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Gil Barth, Linda Jourgensen, Tina Nielsen, Alison Richards, Ed von Bleichert, Janice Buswell Lopitz STAFF – Annie Noble, Betty Solek, Nancy Steinberger, Alan Taylor, Marni Ratzel, Doug Hawthorne, Randall Rutsch, Joe Mantione, Robin Madel, secretary
WHAT TYPE OF MEETING (BOLD ONE) [REGULAR] [SPECIAL] [QUASI-JUDICIAL]
Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.
Agenda Item 2 – General Citizen Participation <u>Charlotte Sorenson, 603 Spruce St., Boulder</u> , spoke in opposition to the TAB recommendation allowing electric-assisted bikes on bike paths. She said that there has not been an adequate study done and the path widths are inadequate to accommodate e-bikes. She said the TAB is trying to redefine an e-bike as “just a bike.” But she says they will appeal to speed demons because they can go up to 25-30 mph. She also said that the one-year trial the TAB recommended is not enough time and the TAB should authorize a consultant study. General Citizen Participation was closed.
Agenda Item 3 – Tour and discussion of the Skunk Creek project (Broadway to U.S. 36) (Nancy Steinberger). <u>Steinberger</u> led the group on a tour of the area that will be improved within the Skunk Creek CEAP. She pointed out the realities of completing the project, given the budget and regulatory constraints. Steinberger said the goal of the CEAP is to connect the bike path to US 36. Currently there is funding to extend the path to 27 th Way. All the conceptual plans have been reviewed and the project is in the permitting stage. Preliminary designs are under way.
Agenda Item 4 – Staff update on current and future Greenways Projects (Annie Noble). <u>Noble</u> gave a handout with an updated project list but did not give a presentation.

Agenda Item 5 – Staff presentation and discussion on the status of the city ordinance allowing electric-assist bicycles on bike paths (Marni Ratzel).

Ratzel spoke about presenting the electric bike issue to various boards. The Parks and Recreation Board will review the issue in January and the Open Space Board will review the issue in February. Then the recommendations from all advisory boards will be reviewed. Ratzel is hopeful that a consensus will be reached. The issue goes to the City Council for final approval in late February/early March. Ratzel said there has been some citizen concern and a lot of citizen support for allowing e-bikes on bike paths. Ratzel has been keeping a record of all the correspondence she has received. She said the letters support both sides of the issue.

Linda Jourgenon, from the OSMP Advisory Board expressed her board's general objection to having e-bikes on open space but she agreed that there might be places where the bikes are appropriate. Ratzel said that the code could be written to allow e-bikes wherever bikes are allowed except where posted. Ratzel also pointed out that the ordinance would not address other electric-assist devices like scooters. It only addresses e-bikes.

Agenda Item 6 – Staff presentation and discussion on the Greenways habitat maintenance program (Nancy Steinberger).

Steinberger discussed the inter-departmental team being assembled to construct the Integrated Pest Management Plan. Steinberger has been evaluating equipment and storage inventories and needs. She said the \$150K would be used to pay salaries and purchase equipment such as mowers. No trucks will be purchased with the money.

Chemical use versus organic pest management was discussed. Janice Buswell Lopitz suggested conducting a demonstration of two plots using the different types of pest management.

Agenda Item 7 –

A. Matters from the Committee

- Ed von Bleichert discussed whether the GAC could create standards for riparian and wildlife corridors and how close trails can be to waterways. Steinberger recommended addressing the issue through the revision of the Greenways Design Guidelines.

B. Matters from the Staff

There were none.

Agenda Item 8 – Discussion of Future Meeting Dates and Agenda

Noble asked the GAC about the next meeting date and venue. They agreed that they liked meeting mid-week at lunchtime and they requested another tour if possible. They will meet again in April or May. The next big issue to discuss is the CIP.

Agenda Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:

TBA